

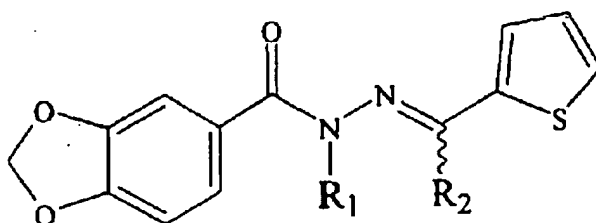
Amendment to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A chemical compound having the formula (I)

(I)



wherein,

R₁ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, allyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, unsubstituted phenyl, and substituted phenyl;

R₂ is selected from the group consisting of H, alkene, un-substituted phenyl, and substituted phenyl; ~~and~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salts salt thereof.

Claim 2. (Original) The chemical compound according to claim 1, wherein at least one of R₁ and R₂ is hydrogen.

Claim 3. (Original) The chemical compound according to claim 1, wherein R₁ is hydrogen.

Claim 4. (Original) The chemical compound according to claim 1, wherein R₂ is hydrogen.

Claim 5. (Currently amended) The chemical compound of claim 1, wherein R₁ is hydrogen; and R₂ is hydrogen ~~hydrogen~~; and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Claim 6. (Currently amended) A method of preparing the chemical compound according to claim [[1]] 5, comprising ~~steps of~~:

contacting 3,4-methylenedioxybenzoylhydrazine with an equimolar amount of thiophene-2-carboxaldehyde; and recovering the compound.

Claim 7. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 6, wherein said thiophene-2-carboxaldehyde is in a solvent and in the presence of a catalyst ~~is used~~.

Claim 8. (Original) The method according to claim 7, wherein said solvent is ethanol and said catalyst is hydrochloric acid.

Claim 9. (Currently amended) A method of treating congestive heart failure in a patient ~~with a calcium sensitizer~~, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 5.

Claim 10. (Original) The method of treating a patient according to claim 9, wherein the therapeutically effective amount of the compound is one that produces a plasma concentration of the compound of 1 μM to 100 μM .

Claim 11. (Original) The method of treating a patient according to claim 10, wherein the therapeutically effective amount is one that produces a plasma concentration of the compound of 10 μM to 50 μM .

Claims 12-15. (Canceled)

Claim 16. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound of claim 5 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier ~~and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof~~.

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Claim 17. (Currently amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 16, further comprising pharmaceutically acceptable inactive ~~ingredients, comprising~~ ingredient selected from diluents, ~~carriers~~, solvents, disintegrants, lubricants, stabilizers, ~~and~~ or coatings.

Claim 18. (Original) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 17, wherein the composition is formulated for oral administration.

Claim 19. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 16, wherein the composition is formulated for parenteral administration.

Claim 20. (Currently amended) A ~~chemical~~ composition comprising the compound of claim 5 and a second peptide compound selected from the group consisting of dipeptides and tripeptides; said composition having the characteristic of producing at least 20% oral bioavailability of the compound when taken orally by a patient.

Claim 21. (Canceled)

Claim 22. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising the compound of Claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 23. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising the compound of claim 2 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 24. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising the compound of Claim 3 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 25. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising the compound of Claim 4 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 26. (Currently amended) A method of treating congestive heart failure in a patient,

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comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 3.

Claim 27. (Currently amended) A method of treating congestive heart failure in a patient, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 4.